

## IN THE CLAIMS

Please rewrite claims 4, 1 and 2 as new claim 21, to read as follows:

Claim 21. a swim fin apparatus sized to fit about a user's foot, comprising:

- a) a foot-pocket sized to receive a user's foot therein;
- b) at least one securing strap to secure the foot-pocket to a user's foot;
- c) opposing channeling scoops positioned on opposite sides of the foot-pocket; said channeling scoops positioned to channel water during the up-stroke and the down-stroke of the swim fin apparatus;
- d) a flexible blade extends beyond the foot-pocket, to a distal end positioned on the longitudinal axis of the swim fin apparatus, and a tail fin is attached; and
- e) the flexible blade further comprising a curved trailing edge, and the tail fin comprising a complimentary curved leading edge positioned in spaced, complimentary alignment with the curved trailing edge of the flexible blade, whereby water flowing across the flexible blade passes over the wing-like tail fin to produce additional lift and thrust.

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Please delete claims 1, 2 and 4 as they are substantially incorporated within claim 21.

Please rewrite claim 3 as new claim 22 to read as follows:

Claim 22. The swim fin apparatus of claim 21, wherein the tail fin comprising a centrally disposed extended neck portion and comprising left and right symmetrical fin portions, and the tail fin is releasably secured to the distal end of the flexible blade with a means of releasable securement.

Please delete claim 3 as it is substantially incorporated in claim 22.

Please rewrite claim 5 as new claim 23 to read as follows:

Claim 23. The swim fin apparatus of claim 21, wherein the foot-pocket is in the form of footwear, with said opposing channeling scoops positioned on opposite sides of the footwear; said channeling scoops with directional channeling curves positioned to channel water during the up-stroke and the down-stroke of the swim fin apparatus.

Please delete claim 5 as it is substantially incorporated in claim 23.

Please rewrite claim 6 as new claim 24 to read as follows:

Claim 24. The swim fin apparatus of claim 21, wherein said swim fin apparatus has a rigid forebody comprising said foot-pocket with a shaped insole and said channeling scoops, a flexible afterbody comprising said flexible blade and a symmetrical wing-like tail fin and whereby the shaped insole interfaces with the user's foot to assist in walking and

swimming and the rigid forebody preferably comprises 40 percent to 80 percent of the length of the swim fin apparatus.

Please delete claim 6 as it is substantially incorporated in claim 24.

Please rewrite claim 7 as new claim 25 to read as follows:

Claim 25. The swim fin apparatus of claim 21, wherein a plurality of small grooves form a non-stiffening pattern on a substantial portion of the outer surface of the swim fin apparatus whereby small vortices are produced in water to create less drag.

Please delete claim 7 as it is substantially incorporated in claim 25.

Please add new claim 26 to read as follows:

Claim 26. The swim fin apparatus of claim 21, wherein the trailing edge of the flexible blade and the leading edge of the tail fin are positioned in spaced, non-complimentary alignment whereby material costs are reduced.

Please add new claim 27 to read as follows:

Claim 27. The swim fin apparatus of claim 21, wherein the foot-pocket and the channeling scoops use a releasable securement means to secure the flexible blade and the wing-like tail fin whereby ease of transport, storage and swimming are enhanced.

Please add new claim 28 to read as follows:

Claim 28. The swim fin apparatus of claim 21, wherein at least one pin and at least one complimentary aperture are positioned to engage when the portion of the flexible blade is selectively attached to the foot-pocket and the foot-pocket has an insole shaped to fit the sole of a user's foot with different left foot and right foot versions, and whereby these ergonomic insoles would provide padding, drainage and facilitate walking, running, and use.

Please delete claim 14 as it is substantially incorporated in claim 27.

Please rewrite claim 8 as new claim 29 to read as follows:

Claim 29. A swim fin apparatus sized to fit about a user's foot, comprising:

- a) a sole portion sized to receive a user's foot thereon, and a flexible blade extends beyond the sole portion;
- b) at least one securing strap to secure to the user's foot to the sole portion whereby the need for a permanent foot-pocket is eliminated;
- c) opposing curved channeling scoops positioned on opposite sides of the sole portion; said channeling scoops positioned to channel water during the up-stroke and the down-stroke of the swim fin apparatus;
- d) an inclined trailing edge positioned on a distal end of the flexible blade, the trailing edge extending on each side of a longitudinal axis of

the swim fin apparatus; and

e) a wing-like tail fin with an inclined leading edge positioned in spaced, non-complimentary alignment to the trailing edge of the flexible blade.

✓  
Please delete claim 8 as it is substantially incorporated in claim 29.

Please rewrite claim 9 as new claim 30 to read as follows:

Claim 30. The swim fin apparatus of claim 29, wherein said wing-like tail fin has a centrally disposed attaching arm portion and left and right symmetrical fin portions releasably secured to the distal end of the flexible blade with a releasable securement means.

✓  
Please delete claim 9 as it is substantially included in claim 30.

✓  
Please delete claim 11 as it is substantially the same as new claim 24.

Please rewrite claim 12 as new claim 31 to read as follows:

Claim 31. The swim fin apparatus of claim 29, wherein a plurality of small grooves form a non-stiffening pattern on a substantial portion of the outer surface of the swim fin apparatus whereby small vortices are produced in water to create less drag.

✓  
Please delete claim 12 as it is substantially incorporated in claim 31.

Please rewrite claim 13 as new claim 32 to read as follows:

Claim 32. The swim fin apparatus of claim 29, wherein the sole portion and securing strap and the channeling scoops are releasably secured to

the flexible blade and the tail fin whereby ease of transport, storage and swimming are enhanced.

✓  
Please delete claim 13 as it is substantially incorporated in claim 33.

Claim 33. The swim fin apparatus of claim 29, wherein a flexible securing strap extends over the user's foot and is secured to opposing sides of the sole portion, and a buckle means adjustably secures the heel strap about the user's foot to the sole portion.

✓  
Please delete claim 15 as it is substantially incorporated in claim 33.

✓  
Please rewrite claim 16 as new claim 34 to read as follows:

Claim 34. The swim fin apparatus of claim 29, wherein the flexible securing strap which extends over the user's foot comprises a first securing strap and a second securing strap positioned in spaced relation from the first securing strap to secure the user's foot to the sole portion.

✓  
Please delete claim 16 as it is substantially incorporated in claim 34.

✓  
Please rewrite claim 17 as new claim 35 to read as follows:

Claim 35. A swim fin apparatus sized to fit about a user's foot, comprising:

- a) a foot-pocket shaped to conform to a user's foot, and said foot pocket sized to extend beyond the user's foot to form a flexible blade;
- b) at least one adjustable rear securing strap positioned to releasably

secure the user's heel to the foot pocket;

c) opposing curved channeling scoops positioned on opposite sides of the foot pocket; said channeling scoops positioned to channel water during the up-stroke and the down-stroke of the swim fin apparatus, said curved channeling scoops upwardly inclined from proximity to the user's toes to proximity to the user's heel;

d) a flexible blade extending from the foot pocket, the flexible blade with an inclined trailing edge extending on each side of the longitudinal axis of the swim fin apparatus; and

e) a tail fin with an inclined leading edge in spaced alignment in relation to the inclined trailing edge of the flexible blade; whereby water flowing across the flexible blade passes over the tail fin, to increase lift and thrust.

✓  
Please delete claim 17 as it is substantially incorporated in claim 35.

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Please rewrite claim 10 as new claim 36 to read as follows:

Claim 36. The swim fin apparatus of claim 35, wherein the foot-pocket is in the form of footwear having a toe end and a heel end, a first side and a second side, with said opposing curved channeling scoops positioned on the first and second sides of the footwear; said curved channeling scoops positioned to channel water during the up-stroke and the down-

stroke of the swim fin apparatus, and said curved channeling scoops upwardly inclined from the toe end of the sandal towards the heel end of the sandal.

✓  
Please delete claim 10 as it is substantially incorporated in claim 36.

Please rewrite claim 18 as new claim 37 to read as follows:

Claim 37. The swim fin apparatus of claim 35, wherein said tail fin has a centrally disposed extended neck portion and left and right symmetrical fin portions is releasably secured to the distal end of the flexible blade with a releasable securement means.

✓  
Please delete claim 18 as it is substantially incorporated in claim 37.

Please rewrite claim 19 as new claim 38 to read as follows:

Claim 38. The swim fin apparatus of claim 35, wherein a plurality of small grooves form a non-stiffening pattern on a substantial portion of the outer surface of the swim fin apparatus whereby small vortices are produced in water to create less drag.

✓  
Please delete claim 19 as it is substantially incorporated in claim 38.

✓  
Please delete claim 20 as it is substantially incorporated in claim 27.

Please add new claim 39 to read as follows:

Claim 39. The swim fin apparatus of claim 35, wherein the foot-pocket has an insole shaped to fit the sole of a user's foot with different left foot